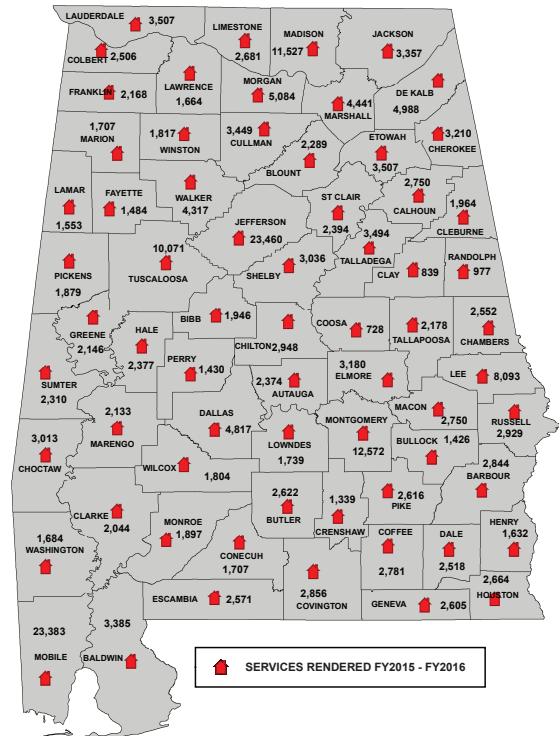


INVESTMENTS IN ALABAMA

2015 – 2017

ADECA's Energy Division manages the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program in Alabama with funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The program provides vital one-time assistance to help low-income families cope with high heating and cooling bills.

ADECA works with 22 Community Action Agencies and local nonprofit agencies to deliver LIHEAP assistance to low-income households throughout the state with funds allocated to each area based on poverty factors. Between fiscal years 2015 and 2016, **\$76.6 million in LIHEAP funds** were made available to assist Alabama residents. Alabama's allocation for fiscal year 2017 is **\$39.8 million**.



PRIORITIES IN ALABAMA

Critical Need

The program places a priority on those with the lowest incomes and the highest home energy costs or needs. Additional priorities are the elderly, people with disabilities and young children.

The amount of assistance that a household can receive depends on gross household income, family size and type of fuel used to heat or cool the home. Household income cannot exceed 150 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, and the majority of the households assisted are below 75 percent of the poverty level. Payments are made directly to over **340 participating home energy suppliers in the state**.

Year-Round Assistance

In addition to the heating and cooling programs, Alabama operates a year-round crisis program, if funds are available, to provide additional assistance to eligible households with a medical emergency.

IMPACT ON COMMUNITY

During fiscal year 2016, LIHEAP assisted **76,948 Alabama households** including **30,866 households** with an elderly family member, **39,672 households** with a disabled family member and **13,404 households with children under the age of 6**.

INVESTMENTS IN ACTION

In July 2016, an 83-year-old resident applied for LIHEAP at the **Pickens County Community Action Agency**. Temperatures had been in the 90s and the elderly man was operating four window air conditioning units to try to cool a home. The only household income was **\$1,136 from Social Security benefits**. The electric bill was overdue and power had been disconnected. Due to the age and medical condition of the client, the agency assisted with **\$456 in LIHEAP funds to restore power to the home**.